

**CALGARY** \*\*\*\*\*

**CALGARY**  
THE  
**DENVER OF CANADA**

ITS ADAPTABILITY AS A

**HEALTH RESORT**

AND AS A SITE FOR THE

**DOMINION SANATORIUM**

FOR THE

**TREATMENT OF CONSUMPTION**

1895

CALGARY HERALD PRINT,  
CALGARY, ALTA.





# CALGARY, ALBERTA,

— AS A —

# HOME FOR CONSUMPTIVES

Its Advantages Unrivalled by any other Resort  
on the Continent.

## CALGARY EQUAL TO DENVER.

Montreal Gazette, February 9, 1895:  
Within the past few months a movement has been inaugurated in Toronto which cannot fail to prove of the most vital interest, not only to the citizens of the Queen's City itself, but to the whole of the Dominion. Mr. W. J. Gage, a prominent Toronto publisher, has been long interested in the subject of consumption and whether it was or was not a curable disease. Last year, just before starting on a trip to Europe, he wrote the Toronto Council offering, if the city

would provide a suitable site for a Home for Consumptives, he would contribute \$25,000 towards the erection and maintenance of suitable buildings. A committee of Aldermen were appointed to consider and report on the matter, and while they were deliberating Mr. Gage went to Europe. While there he visited the famous Consumptive homes in Great Britain and Germany, and returned more fully impressed than ever that he was in the right course. The Council of the Queen City of 1895 took up the question which had been left over from 1894, and a second com-



mittee, embracing in its numbers some of the best blood in the municipal body, was struck to go fully into details and arrange for the proper carrying out of Mr. Gage's scheme. This is the history of the

HOME FOR CONSUMPTIVES

movement in Canada to date, but further developments of the interesting department may be expected.

Mr. W. J. Gage, whose faith in the theory that consumption is curable has practically established an institution with that view in Toronto, is at present in Montreal staying at the Windsor. He was interviewed yesterday by the Gazette on the subject and showed a knowledge of the subject and a depth of sympathy with the unfortunate victim of the dreadful scourge not often met with.

"I am greatly interested in the subject," said Mr. Gage, "and am glad to know that there is a prospect in the very near future of seeing a model institution erected in Toronto devoted exclusively to the care and treatment of consumptives."

"Why do you think such an institution necessary."

"It is now generally admitted by our best medical men that consumption is contagious and in its early stages curable. Therefore those afflicted with consumption should be separated as far as possible and every effort made to give them proper treatment. It is to this end that we are desirous of securing the erection of a home where patients will have every chance of recovery. We hope in Toronto to shortly have an institution were the conditions necessary

TO ACHIEVE SUCH RESULTS

will exist. A southern aspect and a site perfectly sheltered from easterly and westerly winds and with all the sunlight possible are absolutely necessary. These conditions coupled with diet suitable to their ailment give the consumptive patient the best

chance to become a sound man.

"While here I have interviewed Mr. D. McNicoll, general passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific railway, in connection with this matter. Hundreds of our young men leave each year for Denver to regain health and strength there when in our great Northwest the same climatic influences rule which make Denver so valuable to the consumptive. Calgary, Kamloops and other districts are equally as good as Denver to cure the dread disease. Therefore, it has occurred to me that these young men might be retained in our own country instead of going to Denver. It would be a capital arrangement to have a home for consumptives in Calgary. Mr. McNicholl heartily

APPROVED OF THE IDEA

and pledged himself that the C. P. R. would remove any difficulty in the transportation to patients."

"How will these institutions be supported?"

"Our province gives a certain allowance to patients in the General Hospital of 30 or 40 cents a day and the City of Toronto a similar amount. A Home or Hospital for Consumptives is exactly on the same basis and should receive the same degree of support."

"How about the proposed Calgary institution?"

"I hope if the attention of the Government is called to the matter they will support the institution liberally. They spend annually a large sum to stamp out tuberculosis in cattle, and why should they not spend something to prevent the spread of a similar disease among citizens of the Dominion. Then each province should contribute so much per patient coming from its boundaries. These two items, coupled with public subscription, should make the home prosperous. Touching

THE POSITION OF MEDICAL MEN in the matter, I may say that such

men as Dr. Graham, Dr. Temple, Dr. Cameron and other leading Toronto medical men endorsed the idea and addressed the City council in its favour. The press of Toronto is unanimous in its favour, and one paper went so far as to state that a hospital for consumptives was as badly needed as an isolation hospital for diphtheria, and since the new regulations have gone into force in New York city for the inspection of consumptive cases and the disinfecting of the surroundings the death rate has fallen from 5,000 in 1893 to 4,000 in 1894."

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grave, would be saved if they had the advantages of being treated in an institution specially conducted for their benefit at Calgary, and that their lives would in all probability be prolonged for many years by a continued residence in Alberta;—we therefore highly commend the prompt action of His Lordship Bishop Pinkham, Mayor Orr, the medical profession, and the press, in moving in concert with Mr. Gage in this matter; and suggest that this Council urge upon these gentlemen a continuance of their efforts on behalf of so laudable an undertaking, asking them for suggestions as to the steps the Council should adopt in the premises, and pledging ourselves to assist the movement by every legitimate and proper means in our power; and that copies of this resolution be printed and forwarded to interested parties.

WESLEY F. ORR,  
Mayor.  
J. D. GEDDES,  
Clerk.

## CALGARY'S ADVANTAGES.

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Resolution Passed by the City Board  
of Aldermen.

The following resolution was passed by the Calgary City Council, February 26th, 1895:

Moved by Ald. Ramsay, seconded by Ald. Underwood, and resolved: That in view of the action taken by W. J. Gage, Esq., of Toronto, and other gentlemen now interesting themselves in the establishment at Calgary of an Hospital for the treatment of Consumptives, and being convinced by the knowledge of the fact that very many consumptives have been restored to health without special treatment through coming to Calgary to reside; that the air, the water, sunshine, and general conditions of Calgary are equal, if not superior to those at Denver, or any other place in America for benefitting people troubled with weak lungs or asthma; and believing that the lives of many, otherwise doomed to an early

## FROM THEIR EXCELLENCIES

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A Letter from the Earl and Countess  
of Aberdeen

To HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF  
CALGARY.

DEAR MR. MAYOR: The Governor-General desires me to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 18th, and to say that he heartily appreciates the courteous terms of this communication, and recognizes the great interest and advantage of the scheme to which it refers, which is further set forth in the resolution dated Feb. 26., of which you enclose a

copy. His Excellency will take an opportunity of forwarding a copy of your letter and also of the resolution to the Dominion Govt., in case this has not already been done, as it may be of interest to them to know of the project. With the assurance of hearty good wishes from both their Excellencies, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. T. S. HEWETT,  
Private Secretary.

Government House, Ottawa, }  
March 25th, 1895. }

and counties have a larger death rate from consumption than the inland and more elevated places and it is apparent that the situation of such a Home must be chosen with a view to the very best location from a climatic and geological standpoint." The report was adopted with instructions to have it forwarded to the proper authorities for consideration.

The matter is now being actively agitated and gentlemen able and willing to assist the scheme by liberal financial aid are interesting themselves in procuring information to enable them to make a selection of a suitable site for the location of such a Home.

We believe we possess in Central Alberta and in the immediate vicinity of Calgary, a larger proportion of the favourable conditions demanded for the suitable location of such a Home, than any other place in the Dominion.

Calgary is a beautifully situated city of between three and four thousand inhabitants, located within sight of the foothills and the glorious Rockies, which line the horizon to the south and west as far as the eye can reach, with their snow white crests and glistening summits, ever presenting one of the most glorious and magnificent views on this continent.

It occupies a saucer-like basin between two great mountain streams: the Bow and Elbow, conveying great volumes of pure, cold water, which even in the hottest day in summer is refreshingly cold and whose currents flow with such rapidity the year round, as to prevent the pollution of their waters, by the deposit of material injurious to health in their channels or beds. These rivers converge and join at the eastern limit of the city in one stream, which flows eastward to join the great Saskatchewan.

It is surrounded on every side, with the exception of a few small gaps, by

## MEDICAL MEN REPORT.

### Letter from Calgary, Banff and High River Practitioners.

At the last annual meeting of the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario, held in February of this year, Dr. Bryce, Sec. of the Board, reported as follows: "That consumption and tuberculosis in its various forms, had attained such proportions in Canada that the time has arrived when a home or sanitarium for its treatment and cure is urgently demanded, and that such provision could only be realized by Government action, that it might be partially maintained by agricultural and other industries carried on by the patients in connection with it, and also by patients of the better class who were able to pay, and further that proposals had been made to establish a Hospital for Consumptives at Toronto, but however valuable such an institution might be, it cannot fulfill the conditions which most recommend themselves to your Committee, as it is well known the lakeside cities, towns,

an elevation or bench, several hundred feet high, which admirably protects it. The soil in the city limits is mostly a sandy loam with a gravelly sub-soil; at some points the gravel is on the surface.

The city is lighted by electric light and derives its water supply, which is everything that could be desired, from the Bow River by a system of waterworks. There is a good system of sewerage in operation in the city, the plans being furnished by a highly qualified and experienced Engineer, residing in Toronto.

We have an unlimited supply of most beautiful and suitable sandstone for building purposes, within a mile of the city, the bench surrounding the city being practically one continuous bed of it, of which all the public buildings and principal business houses, as well as many of the private residences are built, presenting a very solid and substantial appearance.

The various lines of business are well represented, so that people coming here in search of health, or homes, need not want for either the necessities or luxuries of life, if they are able to purchase them. You frequently hear new comers remark, you can shop as well here as in most of the eastern cities.

It is well supplied with churches; the various Protestant as well as the Roman Catholic denomination being represented, and it possesses a free system of schools, both public and high, where pupils can be prepared for entering the university.

It has two substantial and well equipped hospitals, a Protestant and a Roman Catholic, and a very fine Opera House furnished with all the appliances required by the modern stage, and being on the main line of railway we have the frequent opportunity of hearing many of the best travelling

troupe on their continental tours as well as lectures and entertainments of various kinds, from distinguished persons and companies passing en route.

The residents of Calgary and vicinity are of a superior class, many of them being highly cultured, intellectual people, and parties coming here to find health, can also find homes and enjoy all the advantages of good society.

It is the most important point in the North West Territories, being on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and its proximity to the mountains precludes the possibility of any rival springing up. There is a branch line running north two hundred miles to Edmonton, a prosperous agricultural district, and a branch running south one hundred miles to McLeod, passing through the ranching district, where thousands upon thousands of cattle and horses are running free on the prairie winter and summer.

The city is supplied with abundance of cheap coal for fuel from several mines in operation in the near vicinity.

The Calgary District is essentially adapted for stockraising, and is acknowledged to be one of the finest countries for dairying in the world, and there is practically an unlimited field for this enterprise, and capital and experience are fast taking advantage of the opportunity presented in this industry. The rich and succulent grasses of Alberta produce the finest butter and beef in the world. The grass cures itself, and fat stock can be found on the ranges all winter. This industry of stock raising and dairying offers good returns to those who engage in it properly and look after it.

The soil surrounding Calgary is very fertile, and only requires a system of irrigation to supply the requisite

moisture to make it produce everything in abundance. A large number of the smaller farmers, located on streams, have put in private ditches, with good results, and capital is now being enlisted, to carry out an extensive scheme of irrigation, which, when completed, will open up thousands of acres of the most fertile and magnificent land in the world, which will offer homes to those who come to us to find health, and who will not be compelled to leave the country where they have recovered the greatest blessing known to man—good health. And, if a tract of land was selected for the home which could be irrigated, Dr. Bryce's suggestion could be followed—that agricultural pursuits could be carried on very advantageously and contribute largely to the support of the institution.

The country surrounding Calgary is very suitable for outdoor exercise and sports. The prairies are traversed by splendid roads in every direction, suitable for wheeled vehicles of every kind, and there is no limit but an occasional fence to bar the path of the rider on horseback for miles. Good riding and driving horses can be purchased for a nominal price, riding ponies from fifteen to thirty dollars and good drivers from fifty to sixty dollars, and for nine months in the year their keep practically costs nothing, as they can run on the prairie and graze their food. There are many attractions and interesting drives in every direction for miles. The prairie is traversed by a number of small mountain streams, with gravel and pebbly bottoms, and banks easily approached and containing pure, cold and refreshing water. The reputation of Calgary and surrounding district as an attractive field for the sportsman has spread afar and is well established, our streams large and small contain unlimited quantities of fish of various kinds, the ever sprightly trout always

on the alert for the angler's bait, and during the season the chicken and duck shooting is very good.

The place that can offer so many social and desirable privileges, as well as openings for permanent homes easily procured in the city and country surrounding—together with the climatic advantages hereinafter very fully set out, ought to receive the most earnest support of those interested in this very laudable scheme, and to whom are entrusted the selection of the location for a consumptive home.

Thus far we have been dealing with the social and practical advantages which Calgary has to offer.

We will now proceed to place before you the all important and vital aspect of the situation, viz : the climatic and healthful advantages which justify us laying claim to Calgary being the best location from a remedial and sanitary point of view in the Dominion and in doing so we shall set out under short headings the points we wish to impress on you, and shall afterwards enlarge on them in the order in which they are mentioned.

(1) We are not liable to any endemic (local) diseases

(2) We are free from malaria in any degree.

(3) The altitude is between 3,000 and 4,000 feet above sea level, which is admitted to be, by the highest authorities, the most desirable elevation to secure.

(4) The extreme dryness of the atmosphere, which is one of the most essential conditions demanded.

(5) The very light rainfall in the district which is usually confined to the latter part of April and the months of May and June.

(6) The unparalleled amount of sunshine we enjoy.

(7) The powerful aseptic influence of the atmosphere.

(8) The short winters.

(9) The bracing and stimulating character of the air, which seems to infuse fresh energy into the individual.

(10) The general character of the weather, winter and summer, being such as to admit of a great portion of the time being spent in the open air. We will now proceed to enlarge at greater length and specially emphasize the point which we consider of the greater importance.

No local diseases—We are not subject or liable to any endemic or local diseases. There are very few localities that can boast of such immunity, even the dreaded typhoid, which is so prevalent in many western districts; is a comparative stranger to us, a case being a rarity.

No Malaria—The entire absence of malaria is another very strong point in favour of this district, the importance of which cannot be too highly estimated, as the presence of this poison exerts a very injurious and depressing influence on other diseases,

The altitude most to be desired—The altitude is between three thousand four hundred and four thousand feet above sea level. This elevation is admitted by the highest authorities to be the most desirable to attain, and is the one best adapted to afford relief to consumptives in the various stages of the disease. We are in latitude 57° and longitude 114° west of Greenwich.

The dryness of the air—The atmosphere is extremely dry, one of the most essential conditions demanded for such a location, a fog is practically unknown. We have no large bodies of still water, swamps, or sloughs, to evaporate and affect the dryness of the air. The character of the soil is such that any rainfall we

have penetrates it very rapidly, disappearing in a few hours and leaving no surface water or saturated surface soil to evaporate into the air to affect its rarity. In further illustration of the dryness of the air, the snow that falls in the winter time is very light and dry, and each fall remains but a short time. It rarely packs, and a fall of several inches will disappear in a few hours with a chinook wind, leaving the ground as dry as if had not fallen.

Slight rainfall—The rainfall is very light. It is exceptional to have any rainfall between the middle of September and the middle of April. The rainfall occurs in showers in the latter part of April and in the months of May and June, and an occasional shower during the balance of the summer.

Great amount of sunshine—Calgary is remarkable for the unparalleled amount of bright sunshine it enjoys summer and winter. It is a rare and exceptional thing to have a day between the first of April and the end of December without warm, bright sunshine during the greater portion of the day, and as a rule throughout the whole day, and during our winter season which is short and will be referred to have particularly hereafter, a large portion of the days are bright and sunshiny for a longer or shorter period. The long twilights we are favoured with in summer are a very delightful and enjoyable feature of our climate, giving us a much longer period of sunshine in the day. These balmy twilights are a very important characteristic of our climate when viewed in connection with the requirements of consumptives, that they should have the privileges of enjoying as much of the open air as possible. The scientific estimate of the amount of sunshine we enjoy is very high being 90 per cent.

**Aseptic character of the atmosphere**—The atmosphere is powerfully aseptic which exerts a most unfavourable influence on the growth of micro-organisms, putrefactive changes take place slowly and many authenticated cases are known where meats and skins have cured themselves in the open air. This influence of the atmosphere is of great importance in view of the fact that consumption is due to a micro-organism, and our atmosphere is bound to exert a powerful beneficial influence on the course of the disease.

**Character of our winter**—The winters are very short, lasting about two or three months. The snow fall is very light, remaining but a short period on the ground at a time, and sleighing can rarely be indulged in, on account of its lightness and dryness. We usually have during the months of January and February and occasionally in March a number of cold stormy days, but we never have severe weather for any length of time, and with the exception of a very few of our coldest and stormiest days patients if properly clad, can enjoy outdoor exercise all winter. The rule is during the winter to have bright sunshiny weather, and it is an exceptional day that the sun does not shine during some portion of it.

**Stimulating and bracing character of the atmosphere**—The atmosphere is remarkable for its stimulating and bracing character, it produces a buoyancy and elasticity apparently supplying fresh energy to the individual. It is a fact borne out by experience and observation by both professional and laymen that in a large majority of cases of persons coming here suffering from functional and remediable troubles, such as dyspepsia, nervous prostration, or sleeplessness brought about by various depressing causes, they are in a short time much improved by a residence

here. They are invigorated, they regain their appetite, their digestion improves, they increase in weight, they secure good sound sleep, their nervous system becomes strengthened and in fact the whole system seems to respond to the invigorating influence of the atmosphere. This favourable influence is not confined to cases of functional disorder, but is also marked in cases of organic disease, if not too far advanced they recover fresh vigour and a truce or respite is established in their disease, their general health is much improved, and while in time their disease may progress, they enjoy much relief and their life is greatly prolonged.

**Salubrious character of the climate generally**—The climate and weather is of such a character both winter and summer as will admit of patients spending by far the greater portion of their time in the open air. I have already referred to the winter weather, I will now draw your attention to the summer weather. It is simply delightful, and we do not believe it can be surpassed in the world in its brightness, clearness and wonderful sunshine, with its long days and bewitching twilights; the weather is rarely too hot to enjoy outdoor exercise, and then only on an occasional day in the middle of summer. The morning and evenings are are fresh and stimulating and always cool enough to enjoy refreshing sleep, and for those suffering from consumption, if they are to receive the great benefit which favourable climatic conditions offer them, it is beyond question that the location that offers them the opportunity to enjoy the open air in such a climate to the greatest extent is the one that is bound to produce the best results, and while there is no climate perfectly satisfactory, we hope we have demonstrated to you that Calgary possesses a greater proportion of the favourable conditions—climatic and otherwise—

than any other place in the Dominion for the location of such an institution.

We will now offer you our experience, as professional men, acquired from the supervision and treatment of cases that have come under our notice during the past ten or twelve years. Each and all of us have had cases under our charge, suffering from consumption in its various stages, and we are entitled to speak with authority.

All cases of consumption have not and will not be equally benefited by a change of residence to this district, as many of them suffer from other organic diseases, which increase the severity of their condition and operate against their recovery, but our experience has been that those cases of weak lungs that have come to us in the initial stages, and I will use a borrowed term from a celebrated writer, viz; Candidates for consumption, who have had a bad family history, or been subjected to severe depressing influences and who would very likely develope the symptoms at an early date, if not complicated with any other serious condition will, after a short residence here, show signs of improvement in their general health and strength and will progress favourably and continue to improve in every way until a higher standard of health is attained than before enjoyed and will throw off and apparently outgrow their weakness and tendency to fall into a tuberculous condition. Further, as to cases more advanced, when the symptoms have already declared themselves, but not severely, and when the general health is not seriously impaired, after a short residence here their symptoms moderate, their health improves in every way and they increase in weight. We have many such cases in our midst today, apparently a truce or respite in their disease has become established, and we have no doubt many of such cases will recover and become cured,

as many have to our knowledge in the past; while others will live and enjoy a happier life elsewhere.

As to those coming here in an advanced stage of the disease, when the local and general symptoms are in full activity, and there are many such in our district at the present time, and while we cannot express a favourable opinion of them, many have been much relieved by the change, losing for a time some of their most distressing symptoms, and enjoying more comfort and better health, and while they cannot expect to be cured, life has been greatly prolonged by their removal.

Our experience has also been favourable as to the influence of our climate on bronchial complaints, many marked cases of chronic bronchitis having been cured and more greatly relieved by the change.

We can speak equally strongly of asthmatic patients. We have several noticeable cases here of persons compelled to leave their homes elsewhere, who since coming here have enjoyed perfect freedom from this disease.

We are pleased to embody in the report letters from patients who are now resident here, and who are glad to place on record the benefits they have derived from the change and while some of them are sensitive about having their names made public, we will guarantee that every letter is genuine and will furnish proof of its authenticity if called on to do so: N. J. Lindsay, M.D.; E. H. Rouleau, M.D.; R. D. Sanson, M.D.; H. G. Mac-  
kid, M.B., M.D.C.M., L.R.C., P.S.L., F.R.P. & S.; A. E. Wills, M.D.; R. G. Brett, M.D.; J. D. Lafferty, M.D.; A.E. Porter, M.D.; G. Macdonald, M.D.; Geo. Arthur Ings, L.R.C.S.T.P. & D.

TO THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN,  
CALGARY:

Gentlemen: At a special meeting of the medical men and committees from the Calgary City Council and Calgary Board of Trade held on Monday, May 5th, the following resolution was carried unanimously:

Moved by Jas. Bannerman, Esq., and seconded by P. McCarthy, Q. C., that the report of the medical men of Calgary and vicinity as compiled and

read by Dr. Lafferty, be adopted and the City Council be asked to have two thousand copies printed and distributed in the east.

I enclose herewith the report referred to and trust your honourable body will give it your early and favourable consideration.

Very truly,

I. S. G. VAN WART,  
Secretary.

Calgary, May 7, 1895.

## SOME PRACTICAL LETTERS

From a Few of the Many Who Came to Regain Health in Alberta's Sunny Clime.

The following important letter is from a clergymen of the Church of England resident in the Calgary district:

I. S. G. VAN WART, SECRETARY  
BOARD OF TRADE, CALGARY,  
ALBERTA.

SIR: I have been requested to state my personal experience as to the beneficial effects of the climate of Southern Alberta as regards the lungs. I have suffered for now nearly three years from tuberculosis in the right lung—the result of a severe attack of pneumonia in London, England, in June 1892. During this period I have spent winters first in St. Noritz, Switzerland; then in Colorado, Denver and Colorado Springs, where I spent a part of a year, and now lastly in Calgary, where I have been for the last seven and a half months. I am not one of those who are enamoured of the Colorado climate—it was too relaxing for me. I consulted Dr. Rogers, a Canadian doctor in Denver, as to the climate of Alberta and he said I might, in my condition of lung, certainly come to Calgary with advantage. But after consulting him I had a severe attack of pleurisy in Estes Park, Colorado, in August last year, and the doctor who then attended me (Dr. Ruedi, late of Davos, Switzerland) strongly urged me not to come to Calgary. However, I came in spite of his advice, as soon as I was able to travel after the pleurisy, and have made a steady progress in health ever since I arrived here. I have increased 18 lbs. in weight, my cough is less—much less, my appetite is much improved, and I feel more energy than I can remember since my

original illness three years ago; and I am thankful to say I am now able to resume my work in this country as a clergymen of the Church of England.

Calgary, April 13, 1895.

R. D. SANSON, Esq., M. D. City.

MY DEAR SIR: At your request I have much pleasure in giving a brief history of my wife's illness and subsequent recovery upon her removal to this climate. Her sister died of consumption some few years ago and in the summer of 1892 my wife showed symptoms of the same disease in its incipient stage. She had always been extremely delicate, in fact, more so than her late sister. Everything was done for her that money could procure and at last the specialist who treated her gave the case up as absolutely hopeless and advised a climatic change as a last resort. He suggested Red Deer, Alberta. When leaving Ontario she was in a very critical condition, had lost flesh and was troubled with a constant cough and the disease could fairly be considered in its second stage. Red Deer, although but a short distance from Calgary, aggravated the case, owing, I believe, to excessive moisture in the atmosphere, being within the rain belt of Alberta. She was then removed to the vicinity of Calgary. The result was marvellous indeed. She gained somewhere about thirty pounds in a few months, her cough disappeared and in a short time she was to all practical purposes cured and had never enjoyed better health. Her rapid improvement, however, may to some degree be attributed to horseback riding; but undoubtedly the climate was the main factor.

P.

The reader is respectfully referred to Dr. R. D. Sanson, Calgary, for facts of this letter.



A CALGARY STREET SCENE.-Hospital Sunday Parade.

**I. S. G. VAN WART, SEC. CALGARY  
BOARD OF TRADE:**

**SIR:** Dr. Brown, of Neustadt, Grey Co., Ont., a graduate of Berlin, Ger., advised me to come to Calgary for the benefit of my lungs, telling me I could not live long if I remained in Ontario. This was over ten years ago, and not only am I alive but I weigh heavier today than ever before in my life.

MARY FLEMMING JACQUES.  
Calgary, April 18th, 1895.

**I. S. G. VANWART, SECRETARY OF  
THE CALGARY BOARD OF TRADE :**

Dear Sir: In reply to your enquiry as to whether I have been benefitted in health since I came to Calgary I am pleased to state that I have been greatly so. When I left Chatham, Ont., on the 1st June, 1893, and came to Calgary I was in a very weak condition from hemorrhage of the lungs, and I understand that the doctor (W. R. Hall, M. D., Chatham) had very little hopes that a change of climate would do me any good but advised me to try Calgary, and the result has been wonderful, as I am now enjoying very good health and feel almost as strong as I ever did. I strongly recommend any one suffering from lung troubles to try Calgary.

W. C. MILNER.  
Calgary, April 10th, 1895.

**W. F. ORR, ESQ., MAYOR OF CALGARY:**

**SIR:** Since 1884 whilst residing in Ontario I suffered acutely from a very severe affection of the chest and lungs and for years I received advice from the best medical men there without being any nearer recovery, when in the fall of 1891 I was strongly advised by Dr. Hewitt, of Guelph, Ont., to go to the North West as the only means of recovering my former good health. I accordingly came to Calgary, Alta., and soon found relief.

I consider the air of Calgary and district to be particularly healthy and can truthfully say for any person suffering from affections of the lungs and chest that the district cannot be too strongly recommended. I feel confident that relief, if not a cure, would be found here by anyone afflicted in a like manner to myself.

I am happy and pleased to testify that since my arrival here my health has been improving and I am rapidly approaching toward recovery.

I am respectfully yours,  
JOHN CUSHING.  
Calgary, May 16th, 1895.

**W. F. ORR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF  
CALGARY :**

Dear Sir: In reference to the proposed institution for the treatment of incipient consumption I beg to state a few facts as to my experience of the climate of Calgary and surrounding country. I was a resident of the City of Hamilton for five years before coming here. While living at Hamilton I suffered from weak lungs and general debility, growing worse till March, 1890, when I came to Calgary in search of health. At Hamilton I was under treatment of Dr. Dillibaugh who advised me to go somewhere from Ontario, as he thought I would go into consumption if I remained at Hamilton. My family have been subject to consumption, many of my relatives having died of that disease. When I left Hamilton I weighed only 130 pounds, though I am over six feet in height. I now weigh 175 pounds and have no cough nor have I suffered from cough since I came here. About two years after I came here I went back to Hamilton and took my old position in the Canada Screw Works in that city, but after being there a very short time I found that

my old complaint was fast taking hold of me, so I came west again and at once regained my health, which has continued good ever since. My child was very poorly in Hamilton, but now has perfect health, though only 15 years of age, she rides a great deal on horse back. In the month of January she rode on horse back from Olds to Raven River, over 30 miles, without any inconvenience or bad effect. When residing in Hamilton we fully believed she was going into consumption and had no hopes of saving her life. I would say further that since living in Alberta I have led a life of hardships, camping out in the most severe weather that we have, walking long journeys. I made one trip of 35 miles on foot, camping every night in midwinter, without any bad results, in fact I have steadily grown stronger and healthier all the time that I have resided here.

HARRY C. HOFFMAN.

Calgary, May 25, 1895.

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I. S. G. VAN WART, SECRETARY  
BOARD OF TRADE, CALGARY:

DEAR SIR: I see you are collecting information having reference to Calgary as a site for proposed Dominion Sanitarium. It may be interesting to give you my experience of the climate here and its effects on lung and chest complaints.

I came here in May '91 from Belfast, Ireland, my family consisting of four children, the eldest being a girl six years old.

Previous to coming here we had been troubled to a great extent by lung and chest diseases, both myself, wife and family. In fact I often thought that we had a strong taint of consumption in the family (I had a brother who died in consumption). My children were continually having colds, coughs, croup and bronchitis, and I cannot remember at any time

when some one in the house was not ailing. Since coming to this country I am thankful to say that in the four years I have not been called on to pay one single dollar for a doctor, and neither my wife, children or myself have been troubled by the least appearance of ill health of any description. I am not good at theorizing but here are a few plain facts which speak for themselves. I remain, dear Sir,

Yours respectfully,

W. J. DOHERTY.

Calgary, Alta., May 11th, '95.

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I. S. G. VAN WART, ESQ., SECRETARY  
BOARD OF TRADE, CALGARY:

DEAR SIR: I have been asked to relate my experience in connection with the climate of Southern Alberta as compared with Colorado, to which request I cheerfully comply.

In April, 1884 I contracted a severe cold in Prince Edward County, Ont., resulting in hemorrhage of the lungs, and in consequence of which my physician, Dr. Wright, of Picton, Ont., advised me to try either the North West Territories or Denver, Col. After considerable discussion I decided to cast my lot with Denver, to which place I removed in March, 1885.

On arriving there I experienced some inconvenience in my breathing owing to the altitude—5200 feet—and for some months after I did not receive the benefit I had hoped for. I became considerably discouraged owing to another slight attack of hemorrhage. I remained there, however, for two years and was greatly benefitted; enough so that I foolishly returned to Ontario, hoping that I might be able to remain there. But, on the other hand, what benefitted me acted the very reverse with my wife. She found she could not remain owing to dizziness, caused by the great altitude, so said the late Dr. Evans, with whom she advised, and was compelled to return to

Ontario several months before my return. After I returned to Ontario in 1887 I found I was gradually drifting back to my old standard of health, and again consulted my physician, and also D. D. M. Fraser, of Stratford, Ontario, as to my best course to pursue. Dr. Fraser was doubtful if the North West Territories would be as beneficial as Denver, but I decided to act on the advice of my first adviser, Dr. Wright, and come to Calgary hoping the medium in elevation might be found that would agree with Mrs. Burley as well as myself (Calgary being 3,200 feet as compared with Denver 5,200 feet). I have now been here since November 1891, and to my great surprise Calgary has agreed with me even better than Denver. I have not been sick one day in consequence of lung trouble, and have had no symptoms of my old trouble since coming here. My wife is much better than in Colorado and has had no return of the complaint she was affected with there.

We are so much pleased with the results that we have decided to make Calgary our permanent home.

Yours very truly,  
E. W. BURLEY.

Calgary, May 3, 1895.

I. S. G. VAN WART, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRADE :

Dear Sir: In reference to your enquiries about effect of the climate of Calgary on my wife's health I would say when living in Ontario five years ago Dr. Shaw, of Orillia told me that my wife was suffering from lung trouble and that in his opinion she could not live six months. I then went to Dr. McLean, of the same

place; he told me that it was necessary for me to go and take her to some high and dry climate. I chose Calgary in preference to Denver, Col. She had hemorrhage four times before she came here and once immediately after we arrived, but never since, and today she is better than she had been for three years before we came here.

JAMES WINN.

Calgary, May 2, 1895.

I. S. G. VAN WART, SECRETARY BOARD OF TRADE, CALGARY :

DEAR SIR: Previous to my coming to Calgary eight months ago I had been living at Sault St. Marie, Mich., for six years. Four years ago I had an attack of la grippe which left me in a very weak condition, my lungs particularly being affected. I kept getting weaker until I could scarcely walk. Having heard of the healthful climate of Calgary I decided to try a change, as the only apparent hope for life. Immediately after arriving here I began to feel better and was soon able to go to work. I have not lost a day since the first of October last, and my cough has disappeared. I weigh twenty pounds more than when I arrived here. I feel that by coming to Calgary I have taken a new lease of life, I have purchased a home in the city and intend to remain here.

Yours faithfully,  
THOS. MARTIN.  
Calgary, May 10th, 1895.

**W. F. ORR, Esq., MAYOR:**

I was born and brought up in the County of Rimouski, Province of Quebec. I am now forty-three years of age. Six years ago I had a violent hemorrhage from the lungs followed by a constant cough and loss of flesh, and my physician advised me that I was going into consumption and that I had better try the vicinity of the Rocky Mountains about Calgary, and that if I remained in Quebec I would

die. I came West five years ago. I suffered from my cough for about a year after I came but had no more hemorrhage. I increased in weight, have worked very hard for the past four years, and today feel that I am a strong, vigorous man in good weight, suffer from no cough and enjoy first rate health.

D. MC EWING.

Calgary, May 21, 1895.

## NO TUBERCULOSIS

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Letters on This Point From a Doctor and Two Veterinary Surgeons.

W. F. ORR, ESQUIRE, MAYOR:

Mr. the Mayor: In compliance with your request I am pleased to say that, since I am in Calgary, I never heard of a case of tuberculosis among cattle or the bovine race, and I may add that I am positively certain that there is none, and that there never was any since eight years of my sojourn in the District of Alberta. It is the same thing amongst horses; a remarkable fact is, that there is no heaves or asthma in the last mentioned class of animals.

Now, by having no tuberculosis in our cattle, the human race is a great deal less exposed to contamination.

We all know that this disease is easily transmitted by the cow's milk, even by eating the meat, and by attending to these animals. Then the people of Alberta are not subject to this disease.

I remain, Mr. the Mayor,

Respectfully yours,

E. H. ROULEAU, M. D.

Calgary, June 1, 1895.

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W. F. ORR, Esq., MAYOR:

Dear Sir: In reply to your enquiry as to the prevalence or existence of tuberculosis in cattle in the N. W.

Territories I beg to state that so far as my experience and investigation extends I may state that I have been a resident rancher since '84 and have been during this period professionally engaged amongst the herds of this district and so far have never met with or heard of a single case of this disease. I am, sir,

Yours obediently,

A. E. BANNISTER,

M. R. C. V. S.,  
London.

Calgary, June 27, 1895.

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W. F. ORR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CALGARY:

In accordance with your request as to the prevalence of tuberculosis amongst the domestic animals of this district I would state that in the practice of my profession for over fourteen years in different parts of this district I have never seen or heard of an authentic case of "tuberculosis." In addition I may state what is commonly known in this country, that horses brought from Ontario suffering from asthma or heaves are invariably permanently relieved of all distressing symptoms.

R. RIDDELL, V. S.

District Veterinarian under the  
Animals Contagious Disease  
Act.

Calgary, May 20, '95.

## AN ENGINEER'S REPORT.

A Report from J. S. Dennis, D. L. S.,  
Chief Inspector of Surveys

The following is a report by J. S. Dennis, Esq., D. L. S., M. A., S. I. E.; etc., etc.

W. F. ORR, MAYOR OF CALGARY,  
CALGARY, ALTA.:

SIR: I answer to your request, and in compliance with instructions to that effect received from the Deputy Minister of the Interior, I have the honour to submit for your information the following report upon the site occupied by the City of Calgary from the standpoint of the physical conditions affecting such site, and as shown by topographical and hydrographical surveys of the district at present being performed by the Dominion Government, under my charge.

This report is, I understand, required for use in demonstrating the suitability of the city for the erection of a consumptives home or sanatorium, and will probably, therefore, be found advantageous to discuss the questions affecting such site, under the different headings of "Situation and Topography of the Immediate District," "Water Supply" and "Facilities for Drainage."

### SITUATION AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE IMMEDIATE DISTRICT.

The City of Calgary occupies a portion of an extensive and level bottom forming part of the Bow River valley at the point where the latter is joined by the Elbow River from the west. This bottom is situated at an elevation of 3,401 feet above the sea, and within the city limits has a gradual fall east, to the Elbow River, and north to the Bow River, affording excellent facilities for draining in either of these directions into the streams in question.

The soil of the bottom is largely gravel, covered in most places with a shallow depth of sandy loam, the sub-soil being coarse gravel. The bottom or flat occupied by the city is surrounded on all sides by the hills forming the slopes of the valleys of the streams above mentioned, these hills rising to an elevation above the bottom of from 130 to 160 feet. Through the greater portion of their length, the slopes of the hills are easy, but in places they are broken by precipitous or "cut" banks, and at many points they afford well sheltered sites, in their broken contour, from the prevailing north and north-west winds, with the accompanying unpleasant recurring dust storms during the summer months.

The bench land extending easterly from the city is a high level plateau; to the south and south west the country is high and rolling, many of the higher hills in the immediate vicinity reaching an elevation of several hundred feet above the surrounding plateau. To the north, the bench land extends for a short distance in a high level plain, when the southerly slope of a high range of hills, known as "Nose Hill," extending north and north west, is encountered. This hill reaches an elevation of 4,000 feet above the sea, or 600 feet above Calgary. The whole country in the vicinity of the city is devoid of trees or bush, with the exception of a narrow fringe of trees bordering the banks of the streams, and on the islands in the Bow River. The probability is, however, that the construction of the irrigation ditches mentioned below will be followed by the growth of trees along these ditches and throughout the city where water is supplied.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Both the Bow and the Elbow Rivers afford excellent water for domestic purposes, being fed from the melting

snows and glaciers of the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, and having the characteristic clear and cool water of streams of that nature. It is probable that before long the greater portion of the mean summer flow in the latter stream will be diverted to provide irrigation in the adjacent country, and it is therefore necessary that the city should look to the Bow River for its present and future water supply. Fortunately this stream is of such size and has such a rapid flow that it may be relied upon to furnish a bountiful supply for all time.

The Bow river, in that portion of its length in the vicinity of Calgary, has an average fall of some 10.6 feet in a mile and a mean velocity, during low-water, of about 3.57 feet per second. The low water discharge of the stream is not less than 2500 cubic feet per second, and at high water (which stage covers a considerable period of its flow) this discharge is increased to some 12,000 cubic feet per second, with a further increase up to 25,000 cubic feet per second during the time of the flood or freshet discharge.

The topographical features of the country to the west and in the immediate vicinity of the Bow River, are such as to preclude the possibility of easy diversion of its waters in an extensive manner for irrigation purposes, or the dense settlement of the drainage area tributary thereto, and it is therefore reasonably certain that this source will for all time provide the city with a bountiful and pure water supply.

#### DRAINAGE FACILITIES.

As has already been stated, the site occupied by the city has a gradual fall to the east and west till the Bow and Elbow Rivers are reached, the elevation of Stephen Avenue in the central portion of the city being 25.0 feet above the high water level in the

Bow River at the Langevin Bridge, and 30.4 feet above the same stage of water in the Elbow River at the Railway Bridge. This fall is ample to secure good drainage into either of these streams, and the fall, velocity and discharge of the Bow River as given above, is sufficient to provide that any sewage emptied into that stream will be rapidly carried away from the vicinity of the city.

The porosity of the soil of the site upon which the city is built, probably permits of an undesirable percolation of surface impurities, and of seepage from closets or cesspits, but this feature would of course be corrected by a thorough sewerage system, and this porosity will permit of ground water being kept well below the surface.

#### GENERAL REMARKS

In its general features the site of Calgary may be compared with that occupied by the City of Denver, Col., they are both situated at a high altitude above the sea in an open country, to the east of, but within a comparatively short distance of the Rocky Mountains, and in their climatic conditions sufficiently alike to justify comparison. Calgary, however, occupies a much more sheltered position than Denver, possesses a more bountiful water supply, and has better facilities for safe disposal of sewage, the Bow River being a larger and much more important stream than the Platte River, which provides Denver with a large portion of its water supply and also receives and removes its sewage. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. DENNIS,

D.L.S., M.A.S.I.E.,

Chief Insp. Surveyor.

Calgary, May 27th, 1895.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

By Thos. O'Brien, Esq., of the Observation Department at Calgary.

X. S. G. VAN WART, ESQ., SECRETARY, BOARD OF TRADE, CALGARY.

DEAR SIR,—Re Dominion Sanatorium. As I have been acting as Meteorological Observer here for the Dominion Government for the past four years, I will endeavour to give you some information as to the climate of Calgary.

In the first place permit me to say that Calgary is not regarded by the officers of the Meteorological Service as a "Wind Station." Three years ago an Inspector of the service had the anemometer then in use in Calgary removed to Edmonton, as he claimed Calgary was too much sheltered to be regarded as a "Wind Station." I would remark here that Calgary, I believe, is not regarded as a "Wind Station," for the reason that, whenever Calgary is visited by a fresh breeze, it comes in fitful gusts, and in nearly all cases from the west and northwest. From this fact alone you will note that it is possible to select a site for a Dominion Sanatorium that will be protected from the west and northwest, the two points from which, generally speaking, any rough weather we get visits Calgary. Again, the temperature of Calgary during the summer and winter months is, in my opinion, favourable to such an institution being established here, for the reason that in the summer months the heat is not oppressive, nor yet is the cold severe during the winter season. True we have cold spells, but I may say that they are of such a short duration as to be scarcely noticeable even by an invalid. In support of this contention I might add that during the four years I have had charge of the Meteorological Office here, I have

taken advantage of every opportunity that presented itself to me in order to ascertain from persons who happened to be suffering from consumption what effect our climate had upon their disease, and from the information I have received I have no hesitation whatever in saying that it will be hard to find a climate in the Dominion to compete with Calgary as a health resort for those suffering from consumption. Another important point why Calgary should be selected for the proposed Sanatorium is the equability of the temperature at Calgary throughout the different seasons of the year. It certainly cannot be denied that occasionally we have a sudden rise in temperature caused by the chinook winds, but I venture the assertion that this is in no way an objectionable feature. I would further make the statement that throughout the past four years the weather in and about Calgary both in summer and winter has been such as to permit a consumptive patient (not bed-fast) to be out either driving or walking with the exception of about two weeks in in each year when it might either be snowing or raining.

I would further add that Calgary has as much, if not more, sunshine than any other part of the Dominion. I make this statement from reading the "Monthly Weather Review," which is published by the Dominion Government, and which is an authority that cannot be contradicted.

I have been informed that a report is current, to the effect that Calgary is not a suitable place for the proposed Sanatorium by reason of the prevalence of fog. In answer to this I beg to say that such is not the case. I cannot recall anything during the last four years to bear up such a statement, and only recollect four or five times during the period above mentioned, when I had occasion to report a fog covering Calgary, and then its

duration was not more than a couple of hours on each occasion.

In conclusion I might add that I cannot give here any reason why the proposed Dominion Sanatorium should not be established in Calgary. I do not know, from my experience here, anything against the climate that would stand in the way, excepting the dust storms which occasionally visit Calgary. To counteract this, the Sanatorium could be placed on a suitable site where it would be protected from the west and north west winds. Therefore I would strongly recommend that should Calgary be finally decided upon, this matter, the selection of a site, receive every consideration, as I believe if a site be selected, protected in the manner above stated, this objectionable feature would be overcome, by reason of the building being placed in one of the many amphitheatre situations which exist, with a southern

outlook, in the high range of bench land on the north and west of Calgary. Should you require any further information kindly let me know and I shall be pleased to give you same upon hearing from you.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

THOS. O'BRIEN.

Calgary, May 27, 1895.

P. S.—I will give you herewith the mean temperature for the months of October, November and December 1893; and for January, June, July and August 1894; also for January, February and March 1895:

1893:	above zero.
October...mean temperature	38.00
November. " " " " "	20.31
December. " " " " "	19.00
1894:	
January.. mean temperature	10.00
June..... " " " " "	58.35
July..... " " " " "	65.30
August.... " " " " "	64.00
1895:	
January. mean temperature	4.00
February. " " " " "	10.00

## DR. GEORGE MACDONALD'S

### Views upon Calgary's Advantages from a Medical Standpoint.

There has of late been considerable discussion as to the advisability of establishing a Canadian home for consumptives and also as to what part of our Dominion would present advantages equal to or even excelling those of the older and better known resorts.

That Canadians have in South Alberta (especially in the Calgary district) a climate offering in a high degree all the natural advantages necessary for the establishment of such a home it will be my endeavour to prove in the course of this letter.

To begin with, let us enquire what in climate is most desirable in the selection of a health resort for consumptives; and then let us see in how far South Alberta meets these desiderata, and whether it will justify us in claiming, as we do, the possession of the natural qualifications necessary for the founding of a home equal to, or superior to those of better known retreats.

The consensus of opinion among climatologists is that the spot selected for phthisical patients should hold out the following inducements, namely:—

1. A dry aseptic atmosphere.
2. A dry soil.
3. A maximum amount of sunshine.
4. A certain amount of elevation.

Equality of temperature within certain limits is not considered necessary.

Now, these being the great climatic advantages to be looked for I maintain and hope to prove that these can be had in our own Dominion, in Canada's Alberta.

No person who knows Alberta will deny that we about this Calgary district enjoy all these advantages as called for to a greater degree than has yet been credited to the climate of any other resort for invalids, and for the

benefit of those who do not know Alberta let me here give a short sketchy account of the seasons as experienced by us of Calgary.

The winters of this district, though quite cold at times, are often finer and more enjoyable than one would care to describe. Actual winter usually appears about the first of January, (occasionally some weeks later) with bright keen days, the thermometer reaching zero or even below, but this does not last long, for soon comes up from the west Alberta's warm friend the chinook wind and in a few hours the temperature is at 40 or 60 degrees above zero and continues so for days.

"A clear cool air, a dry bracing atmosphere, with unclouded sunshine and blue skies."

The only real cold weather we experience is that of January and February, and then it is only for a few days at a time that the thermometer remains low, when the balmy chinook greets and warms us.

Snows are very light, and under the warm west wind disappear as by magic. The snow too is dry and light and does not cling to the clothes, thus permitting invalids to go out in the snow with impunity. Though situated (Calgary) at 51 degrees north latitude the climate is so modified and tempered by the chinook and the local depression in elevation from that in the mountains, that as reported in N. Y. Sun, 1891, meteorologists claim it equal to 13 degrees of latitude gained to this depressed belt about the Rockies and under the influence of the chinook.

I will not enter into any detailed statement as to the origin of the chinook, but refer you to a scientific report of it as published by Dr. Dawson, and content myself in short by stating that it is a westerly dry wind, devoid of moisture, and so tempers our winters that they are usually more like fall days than winter as generally understood. It renders the season such

that stock may run at large on the ranges the winter through. The mean average temperatures for the months of January, February and March are respectively  $6.3^{\circ}$ ,  $11.8^{\circ}$  and  $14.9^{\circ}$ . Spring is generally early, and in it we have cold snaps of a few days and an occasional light snowstorm. It practically begins about the first of March, when the snow has then gone or is going, and as a rule is mild and agreeable. April and May days are warm, with plenty of sunshine but cool nights. In May and June the days become warmer and more enjoyable. Mean temperature for April  $37.5^{\circ}$ , May  $48.8^{\circ}$  and June  $55^{\circ}$ .

The summer is long and agreeable, beginning about the latter part of May or early in June and lasting until October, frequently running into the middle of November, for autumn weather is like that of summer, the only exception being that the September nights are usually frosty and that at about the time of the equinox we generally have a snowstorm, which, however, is immediately evaporated. The days are warm, occasionally approaching hot, but the heat is not felt much on account of the cool breeze blowing. One great boon is that though we may be warm at mid-day or experience the discomforts of summer winds, we invariably have cool nights. Even at the hottest one does not experience the exhaustion or fatigue from the heat such as is felt in more humid countries. The heat is at its highest about the middle of August is not sultry and is followed by cool nights. From May to July we have a few warm showers. Average temperature for July is  $59.6^{\circ}$ , August  $58.1^{\circ}$ , September  $50.9^{\circ}$ . Autumn, from end of September to middle of November, is practically summerlike during the day time. September to December is unexcelled anywhere, with its clear days and bright sunshine, clear starlight nights and cloudless skies. Mean

temperature for October  $40.5^{\circ}$ , November  $24.7^{\circ}$  and December  $14.7^{\circ}$ .

This description as given specially relates to Calgary and the statistics as quoted are from the Dominion meteorological reports, comprising the mean of four years.

How easily does this Calgary district fulfil all the climatic requirements we called for.

The pure, dry atmosphere insured by the character of the country: "A great, grassy, undulating, treeless plain, elevated 2,000 to 4,000 feet above the sea level, and distant several hundred miles from any considerable body of water."

That the climate is pre-eminently a dry one is evidenced from the fact that the average percentage of humidity registered for the three winter months is from 55 to 75, and for the other nine 30 to 55, indicating a very dry atmosphere. The annual rainfall is only about 10 inches, and that nearly all in the month of June. This freedom from dampness is a very necessary factor, as it is well proved that dampness provokes consumption.

Dr. D. H. Cullimore, of London, England, who has studied nearly all the known health resorts for consumptives says, regarding dampness: "The evils that can fairly be laid at the door of excessive moisture, in the causation, primary and ultimate development of consumption are so great that they can, in my opinion, hardly be exaggerated, for there is scarcely a place, whether on the high hills, in the lowland valleys, by, or on the ocean wave, in the arctic, torrid or temperate zone, that moisture does not play an important and destructive role."

The exceedingly great amount of sunshine here enjoyed is well set forth in the following extract from a paper by Dr. Kennedy of Macleod. "The Climate of Southern Alberta," read at the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association at Banff, in August, 1889,

from a personal record during a period five years. "The number of days which are recorded as overcast, raining and storming, is respectively 51, 49, 56, 53 and 44, being an average of a fraction over 50, all the rest being noted as fine. Over 50 per cent. of these (50) are simply overcast, so it is fairly presumable that in the large majority confinement to the house would be unnecessary."

Further we have throughout the district an altitude of from 2000 to 4000 feet above the sea level, sufficient to cause lung and chest development by the increased respiration which becomes necessary, without the danger of, at the same time, producing too great dilation of the air cells, as is so frequently seen in the higher altitudes.

In Calgary, a young city situated under the shadow of the Rockies, at an elevation of 3380 feet, in 114 degrees west longitude, and 51 north latitude, we find all these desirable advantages as enumerated. Dryness without rain for 10 months, accompanied by sunshine; dry chinook winds in winter, rendering that season very bearable and enjoyable; light rains between May and July, and in summer cool nights that promote refreshing sleep. The dryness of the atmosphere enables one to withstand changes of temperature that in more humid regions would be detrimental or dangerous. The climate is both a tonic and a stimulant.

Here then is a climate which enables the delicate invalid to enjoy the largest amount of pure air with the greatest amount of ease and comfort to body and mind.

Dr. Cullimore, whom I have already quoted says: "The climate which, under the circumstances, permits the freest ventilation and the greatest amount of outdoor exercise is for each individual the best."

Where to find a site offering this to a greater degree than Calgary I know

not.

That our climate is especially efficacious in the arrest and cure of pulmonary disease has been noted time and again by the physicians of Calgary, and I am sure any of the medical profession here will be most pleased to quote histories of cases that have derived benefit, and to grant all information in their power to any inquirers.

In advocating the great influence for good derived by consumptives from residence in a climate such as this, I do not mean to say that it is beneficial in all the stages of this disease. In the earlier stages of the malady undoubted benefit is derived and many cures effected, but for the delicate invalid in the last stages it is almost criminal to recommend in fact any change from the home comforts and surroundings. Hear what the London *Lancet*, (England) says regarding such:

"May I take this opportunity of expressing my sense of the utter fallacy, nay, wickedness of those who send consumptives to Davos, or any other health resort, in the final stage of the malady."

In addition to that of climate Calgary offers advantages for sufferers from lung troubles. It is easy of access, situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and invalids anywhere between the Atlantic and Pacific seeking our invigorating air have but to step aboard a well equipped parlour (sleeping), or tourist car and with dining car in attendance proceed without change to Calgary, provided throughout the journey with all the comforts and attentions which the Canadian Pacific Railway furnish for their travelling patrons, so that the trip even to the invalid is one of ease and pleasure and far from wearisome.

The nearness of Banff, the centre of Canada's National Park, only 90 miles

west, its medicinal hot springs and attractive surroundings, with hotel accommodation equal to the best, offers inducements unexcelled to those who wish for recreation and change of scene from time to time. Calgary still adds further advantages in its cheerful social surroundings, its varied resources of exercise and outdoor sports, as shooting, fishing, etc. for those who are strong enough to enjoy them, and soon we hope to be able to offer what will be the greatest boon and advantage, next to climate, a thoroughly well equipped, well regulated and comfortable institute for invalids, a veritable home.

In conclusion I will but add the following extract by Mr. W. Reid, of Glasgow, who has personally visited a great number of the consumptive health resorts of Europe and America.

"Alberta possesses what is rarely to be found, a very healthy climate and an extraordinary fertile soil combined. But as regards recuperative powers the author would in particular specially recommend the air of the City of Calgary for incipient con-

sumption and asthma. He has resided in Denver and carefully noted its healing properties to invalids suffering from these diseases, and from various chest and lung complaints but he ventures to believe that for similar diseases Calgary is more adapted than Denver. It possesses first the same location, qualities, and contiguity to the Rocky Mountains, dry and bracing atmosphere and absence from frequent and cold rains; an elevation very similar 3,400 feet above sea level; second also that which Denver does not possess, the healing, dry and balmy winds in winter, blowing upon Calgary from the Pacific Coast; and third Calgary's nearness to the Pacific Coast, with its mild summer, distant 640 miles as against Denver's 1,500. In the treatment of the numerous cases of consumption the medical profession of Calgary have been surprised at the rapid cures effected, where of course the disease was not too far gone as to be incurable."

Yours truly,

GEORGE MACDONALD, M.D.

Calgary, Alberta, April 20, 1894.

## MR. GAGE INTERVIEWED.

The Following Appeared in the Montreal  
Star March 11, 1895.

Montreal Star, March 11: Mr. W. J. Gage, of Toronto, one of the best known publishers in the Dominion, has been spending a few days in the city. Mr. Gage has a project very near his heart, which he hopes to carry into active operation at an early date, namely, the erection of a home for the cure of consumptives at a point along the C. P. R., somewhere in the neighbourhood of Calgary. When interviewed yesterday, Mr. Gage gave a very interesting description of the proposed home and its benefits.

"Owing to the fact now being clearly established," he said, "that consumption is contagious, the necessity for special hospitals is well understood, and with the authority of the best physicians that fully 50 per cent of the cases that now terminate fatally might be saved if proper preventative and restorative means were used, we have every encouragement to take vigorous means looking towards the diminishing of the death rate of this dread disease. Special hospitals are now being established in Buffalo, in New York, Denver and other places of the United States. The proposal to erect a hospital in Ontario has been most favourably received. The Provincial Board of Health at its recent meeting in January passed a strong resolution urging upon the Government the establishment of an institution of this kind in different parts of the province, and at the last annual meeting of the Board of Trade of the city of Toronto, the subject was taken up and an urgent appeal made for the carrying into effect the erection of a hospital in that city. The leading physicians of Toronto, such men as Dr. Cameron,

Dr. Temple and Dr. Graham, have waited upon the Council pressing upon them the necessity and the BENEFITS OF A HOSPITAL OF THIS KIND

"What do you now propose to do?"

"If the C. P. R. will grant free transportation for a limited number of poor patients, say 100 per year, that is, for those who are not able to pay any part of their railway fare, I would propose that the money now offered for a home in Toronto, which is \$25,000, and more can be secured if needed, be utilized in the erection of a home at say Calgary, or such other point as may be determined upon. It is a first condition that, in order to secure the successful working of the home, free transportation be allowed, so that at first we would have the guarantee of a reasonable number of patients and in this way we would be enabled to make a record for an establishment of this kind. For those who could afford to pay, a reduced rate might be arranged. And further, all material required for the building and equipping of the hospital might be carried free, and afterwards such supplies as may be required could be transported at a reduced rate."

"How do you propose that the hospital would be conducted and maintained?"

"When erected, the hospital would be under the control and management of a board of trustees, duly elected for the purpose. The source of revenue would, in the first place, be derived from those who could pay in whole or in part for their maintenance, as in any of the general hospitals. Secondly, from public subscriptions that would be received in the cities, say at Montreal and Toronto, where the Head Hospitals or Receiving Homes would be. Third, it is hoped that Government aid will be extended in the same way as at present. On this point I may say that I have already con-

sulted with several members of the Local Government in Toronto, and they have intimated that it seems reasonable for us to expect for each patient taken from Ontario the same per diem allowance that is now given to patients in the hospitals of Ontario. This is now 30c per day for each patient. The Dominion Government should also

**LIBERALLY AID SUCH AN INSTITUTION,** as they now spend a good deal of money each year in the supervision of cattle to prevent the spread of tuberculosis."

"What are the advantages to be obtained by a home such as you have mentioned?"

"First, it would be beneficial to the patients themselves. Of this fact there can be no better illustration than that given by one of the chief officials of the C.P.R. He gave me a history of his own case the other day, saying that four years ago one of the best physicians in Toronto told him he could not live till spring, and that he should hand in his resignation at once to the head office at Montreal. He came to this city to do so, but instead of accepting it the authorities told

him to go to Kamloops in the Canadian North-West. He did so and returned a half year later a sound man. We have also the experience of many hundreds, who are known to the readers of the Star, who are leaving each year for Denver, New Mexico and other points in the United States with similar climatic conditions as are found in our own North West. In this way we will not only save a great many promising lives, but we will keep them as citizens of our own country. Secondly, the records that will be secured from such a Home must result in increased travel to a climate that has been so beneficial in helping invalids, and not only will the railway carry an additional number of passengers on account of having this Home established in the North West, but, in nine cases out of ten, those who are benefited will of necessity become permanent residents.

"I have received a copy of a resolution from Calgary Council strongly endorsing the scheme, and from the communication received I have a hope that the Government of the North West Territories may render material assistance."

## A GENERAL CIRCULAR.

### Its Necessity and what has Already been Accomplished.

The following circular issued in Toronto is published here as being of interest and importance in connection with the proposal:

The Aid of the Dominion Parliament is sought in the establishment of a National Sanatorium for the cure of Consumption. Such an institution, so far as its facilities will permit, should be open to patients, from all parts of the Dominion. All private or secular control should be excluded.

#### ITS NECESSITY.

Statistics furnished by the highest medical authorities state that tuberculosis carries off one-seventh of the human race. So prevalent is it, that in England it is called the "Plague of Great Britain." It has also been proved beyond a doubt that the disease is contagious. In its earlier stages it is well-known to be curable. The necessity of placing such patients in special hospitals to prevent the spread of the disease, and to secure conditions essential to proper treatment, becomes at once apparent.

Dr. J. E. Graham, Professor of Medicine in Toronto University, in a recent address before the Ontario Medical Association, says:—"For charity patients a special hospital is a necessity if we ever expect to check the progress of Consumption."

Dr. Herman Biggs, Head of the Health Department of New York, and one of the best known authorities in the United States, says:—"I have repeatedly seen persons admitted for other diseases contract Tuberculosis in the ward, and leave the hospital cured of the original affection, but suffering from well developed Tuberculosis, or remain only to die of the latter disease. If as many deaths occurred daily for

one month from Asiatic Cholera in New York as regularly occur from Pulmonary Consumption, the city would be well nigh depopulated from panic resulting."

The Secretary of the Board of Health in Michigan, in an address before the meeting of the Michigan State Medical Society, says:—"I dwell upon the utility of a State hospital for Consumptives, not for its benefits to a class of unfortunate citizens worthy of sympathy, and of all possible aid to recovery, but especially as a means towards the restriction of Tuberculosis."

#### WHAT HAS BEEN ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED.

A friend has made a proposition to give \$25,000 towards the erection of the buildings, and others have generously offered aid in the same direction. If the cottage plan, now admitted to be the best, be adopted building operations may be begun at once.

Thus at the Saranac Lake Sanatorium in New York State, where there was one building and six patients in 1884 there are now twenty-two buildings and eighty-six patients.

Important concessions have been secured from the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Grand Trunk Railway, they agreeing to give free transportation to the hospital for one hundred poor patients per annum and half rates for other patients, as well as additional concessions of an important character.

The Ontario Government has agreed to give a per diem allowance for each patient belonging to the Province of Ontario similar to that for patients in the general hospitals of the province.

#### WHERE IT SHALL BE LOCATED.

Keeping in view that one of the most important factors to promote the recovery of patients in the incipient stages of Consumption is a favorable climatic condition, and having the very best of testimony from our medical men and from the experience of

those who have been afflicted with Consumption, that Canada affords just such favorable conditions of climate as are necessary, it is proposed that a Committee of Physicians, in whom the public will have the fullest confidence, shall determine the location affording all the necessary advantages, climatic and otherwise. That many parts of Canada are available for such purposes is proven from the experience at Saranac Lake. Dr. Trudeau, physician in charge, states that the patients do notably better during the cold weather of winter than during the summer.

#### WHAT IS BEING DONE ELSEWHERE.

In London alone there are three or four great Consumptive Hospitals. The one at Brompton in the West end of London, established over 50 years ago, treated last year 14,000 out-patients, and 2,000 in-patients.

The Royal Victoria Hospital in the East end of London treated last year 16,000 out-patients and 1,300 in-patients. All of these have been cared for without any charge whatever to the patients.

The Royal National Hospital for Consumptives at Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight, is established on the cottage plan, and comprises some ten large buildings or cottages, having for its president the late Prime Minister, Lord Rosebery.

Within the past three months a plan has been organized in Scotland by Mr. Quarrier of Glasgow, with Sir W. T. Gairdner as chairman of the Advisory Board, which provides for the erection of six buildings for thirty-five patients each, to be located in the hills of Renfrewshire, and estimated to cost £60,000 of which £12,000 is already provided.

In Germany they have recently had erected State Hospitals for the treatment of charity patients, afflicted with Tuberculosis.

In Switzerland we have the great

Sanatoria at Davos Platz for Consumptives, with thousands of guests, where a railway of many miles in length has been built to accommodate consumptive patients and their friends. The Government of Switzerland has issued during the past year regulations looking towards the establishment of special hospitals in each canton.

In the United States also hospitals are being erected for the exclusive treatment of consumptive patients. Buffalo during the past year has contracted for the erection of one. In New York a system of Inspection and reporting of cases of Consumption has been instituted with the result that from 1893 to 1894 the death rate from this cause had been reduced from 5,000 to 4,000.

The Saranac Lake Sanatorium was established in 1884, with one cottage and six patients, and had, in 1894, 22 buildings and 86 patients. Its value in 1894 was \$75,000, and had in addition an endowment of \$25,000 and a free bed fund of \$11,000.

Within the past three months two more Homes have been decided upon in New York State, one by Messrs. Schiff and Bloomingdale—The Monte-flore, endowed by them with \$50,000; and another by General DePeyster who has donated \$30,000, and contemplates a home for 300 consumptives.

#### WHY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DOMINION SHOULD ASSIST.

It is a disease of the poor. While no class of society is exempt from consumption, yet it is especially the disease of the poor. Many of those affected are compelled to toil on for bare subsistence while slowly dying and spreading the disease among their fellows. Of all diseases consumption is the most costly to treat, requiring protracted rest, pure air and the best food. Notwithstanding that it is the most frequent and fatal of diseases, owing to its protracted nature and the

consequent expense entailed, consumptives are to a large extent excluded from general hospitals. Even if they were admitted these fall far short of the requirements.

As a means of education for the public such an institution will be most beneficial. The advantages of this when we consider the future cannot be overestimated.

From an economic point of view the Government should assist, as the disease is most prevalent among the poorer classes, and hence in this way there is lost to the State each year the services of thousands of wage-earners whose lives might be saved.

On patriotic grounds the Government should help. At the present moment those who can afford it are being sent by our physicians to Colorado, New Mexico, etc. In many cases they become permanent residents of the place where they have been so much benefitted. Canada ought to retain these, and to help an infinitely larger number who cannot take advantage of these favourable conditions of climate, etc., owing to the expense of transport, etc.

With a view to making Canada better known to Europe the Government should assist. Heretofore Canada has been too often advertised abroad by its ice palaces, etc. Physicians in Europe are constantly sending their patients to Colorado and other points in the United States. If we can show them that we have established a National Sanatorium for consumptives, and its results prove that we have as favourable climatic conditions as can be found anywhere on the continent for those suffering from tuberculosis, there will be turned to this Dominion a stream of invalids who now seek health in the Republic to the south of us.

#### HOW THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

The press of Toronto and Montreal

have been unanimous in their testimony. Medical men of both cities have joined in urging that something be done towards the erection of such a Sanatorium as that proposed. Recently a deputation of some 40 of the Toronto physicians waited upon the Ontario Government urging the claims of the proposed hospital. Men representing both sides of politics in Toronto and Ottawa have endorsed the plan.

That the result would be satisfactory there can be no doubt. This cannot be better indicated than by the following paragraph taken from the paper recently referred to by Dr. J. E. Graham, Toronto: "By intelligent and persistent efforts to destroy the bacilli, or to prevent their entrance into the body; by general sanitation; by careful management of individuals who have a hereditary predisposition; and by the open air treatment, if possible in special hospitals, for incipient as well as advanced cases; the ravages of the disease would, in my opinion be diminished by one-half, and perhaps to a much greater extent."

The annual report of Saranac Lake Sanatorium for 1893 states that 25 per cent of the patients are permanently cured, and 35 per cent receive benefit so that they may resume their avocations.

The report of Dr. P. H. Bryce, the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario, dated January 17, 1895, states:

"Some 1,000 consumptive patients are now annually treated in the general hospital of Ontario, to the great danger of other patients."

That in 1892 there were in the 12 cities of Ontario alone 750 deaths from this disease.

That the economic value to the State of this class, mostly composed of adults or wage-earners, is such as to demand their rescue from death, and

for the still greater reason that the saving of others who would be exposed to them as ordinarily treated as well as the reduction of the heredity tendency in their children, will be in geometrical ratio."

WHAT IS ASKED FROM THE DOMINION  
PARLIAMENT.

With a view to securing the best results it will be necessary to have a Sanatorium established distant from the large cities, with a view to avoiding the incident smoke and dust, and with a view to securing the best climatic conditions. It follows that public help cannot be so readily secured as if the vicinity afforded ready demonstration of the work being done. Hence the appeal to Parliament as representing the whole people.

As already intimated, the cost of maintaining consumptive patients is greatly in excess of that of other patients. In Brompton hospital, London, England, there are usually 300 beds occupied by charity patients during the entire year. It is reasonable to expect that in a large of this character patients can be maintained

more cheaply than if only one quarter the number were cared for. The following letter from the Secretary speaks for itself:

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES, AND  
DISEASES OF THE CHEST.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter, I beg to inform you that the cost per bed for the year 1893 was £92-2-2, which divided by 365 brings it to about 5s. a day (or about \$1.25).

Yours faithfully,  
(Sgd). W. H. THEOBALD,  
Secretary.

Brompton, London, S. W., October  
12, 1894.

It is, therefore, respectfully asked that a per diem allowance of 50c. per day per patient be given. This would be equivalent to about one-third of the cost of maintenance.

It is proposed that the money already promised shall be used solely for the erection of buildings. Parliament in addition to giving per diem allowance might reasonably assist private enterprise in the equipment of the institution, in view of the national character of the enterprise and its vast importance.

## A FEW MEDICAL OPINIONS

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### American and Montreal Physicians have Something to say.

Copy of a letter from Dr. E. L. Trudeau, Medical Superintendent of Saranac Laboratory for the study of tuberculosis.

SARANAC LAKE, N.Y., May 20, '95.

DEAR SIR: I am very glad to hear of the proposed establishment of a National Hospital for consumptives in Canada. A life time spent in constant contact with phthisical patients and for the past 11 years in founding and developing the work of the Adirondack Cottage Sanatorium have but emphasized for me what I believed many years ago, namely, the great need of a radical departure from the old methods in the general management of consumptives. The practicability and usefulness of such institutions is no longer a matter of conjecture, but have been demonstrated by the results obtained during the past 10 years at the Adirondack Cottage Sanatorium and at the foreign institutions and rest on the following facts:

1. The wide-spread prevalence and frightful mortality of pulmonary Tuberculosis and its comparative curability in its earlier stages, our records showing about twenty to thirty per cent. of arrests or improvements.

2. That the placing of consumptives in such institutions tends to diminish greatly the number of foci of infection in crowded centres of population, to restrict thereby the spread of the disease and to benefit public health.

3. That the treatment of patients in suitably equipped institutions in a good climate where a fair proportion of them can be benefitted or cured is no more expensive than in the wards of a general hospital where they all die and are a source of danger to

others.

With my earnest good wishes for the success of the new Canadian National Hospital for consumption,

I am, very sincerely,  
E. L. TRUDEAU.

### LETTERS FROM MONTREAL PHYSICIANS.

Copy of a letter from SIR ALEX. HINGSTON, Montreal, Surgeon in Chief of the Hotel Dieu Hospital.

MONTREAL, May 10th, 1895.

DEAR SIR.—I have long wished to see a Sanatorium or two established in the higher western portion of the Dominion, where the subjects of tuberculosis could receive the advantages of open air treatment—a boon which they have been obliged to seek elsewhere, or to forego altogether.

It was with no small degree of satisfaction, therefore, I learned, from yourself and others, that you had directed your thoughts to obtaining for tuberculous patients suitable accommodation in our own country.

Medical authority has pronounced emphatically in favour of the climate of Canada. But the qualities of climate are but one element in the choice of a suitable locality for the patient. The facilities of travel and the comforts of residence are factors equally important in the choice of suitable abode, and of the route to reach it. the first of these two is now available, and I trust your well directed energies will, in the near future, secure the latter. Wishing you success.

Yours truly,  
ALEX. HINGSTON.

Copy of letter from DR. STEWART, Medical Supt. of New Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal.

DEAR MR. GAGE.—In reference to our conversation of yesterday about the advisability of having a Sanatorium for tuberculous patients established at some point in the North West or

British Columbia, I have to say that in my opinion such a place is not only desirable, but urgently needed. It has now been proven conclusively that the open air treatment of tuberculosis in suitable situations not only arrests the progress of the disease, but in many cases effects absolute cures.

The gratifying effects of suitable climatic and hygienic conditions in this disease are exemplified in the results obtained in the Cottage Sanatorium in the Adirondacks (Dr. Trudeau), in Colorado, in several sanatoriums in Germany, in England, etc.

I believe equally favourable results will be obtained by the scheme proposed by you. The treatment of chronic tuberculous affections is very unsatisfactory in general hospitals. Further, it is impossible to treat more than a comparatively few, even in this way. This necessitates the vast majority of consumptives of humble means being left to fight this battle as best they may, the result being that this disease for centuries has claimed more victims than any other. The recognition of its infective nature shows how it can be met and it gives me great pleasure indeed to think that there will likely be a place soon where poor Canadians can go, with fair prospect of being relieved if not cured of their disease. Wishing you every success in your good work.

I remain, yours sincerely,  
JAMES STEWART.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL,

MONTREAL, June 16, 1894.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of June 13, I think there is very great need for such an hospital described. The treating of such patients in a general hospital is wrong, and very dangerous to the other patients. This isolation must be practised if we expect to stop the advance of this very prevalent and widespread disease. As

to the cost of running such an institution, I cannot express an opinion. A fair comparison could not be made with our institution. I should be glad to write again when some definite arrangement is made.

RIDLEY MACKENZIE,  
Medical Superintendent.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED  
FROM SOME WELL KNOWN TORONTO  
PHYSICIANS.

J. ALGERNON TEMPLE, M.D., M.C.,  
M.R.C.S. Eng., Prof. Obstetrics and  
Gynaekology, Trinity Medical College.

The establishment of a hospital for the treatment of consumptive patients has been a want long felt by the medical profession, and I am heartily in sympathy with you in endeavouring to build such an institution. I feel it is the duty of the government to assist in every way to save, or at least prolong, human life, and in no better direction can they spend money, than in this much needed want. Our country affords many suitable localities for such a hospital, and no medical man who daily sees the sad ravages this dread disease is doing but will heartily endorse your efforts, and say the government is doing a good work if it grants substantial aid to establish this hospital.

IRVING H. CAMERON, M.B., Prof.  
Clinical Surgery, Toronto University.

I certainly think that a hospital for consumptives is much needed by the province, and that it should be established as soon as possible. \* \* \* We have climatic advantages for cases of this kind that cannot be equalled by any country in the world. We should take advantage of them.

JAS. E. GRAHAM, M.D., Prof. Medicine, Toronto University.

\* \* \* It is most assuredly a neces-

sity, and if properly constructed and properly conducted it would be a boon.

E. J. BARRICK, M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng.

\* \* \* The subject is one of the greatest importance, and is deserving of every support. There is no question as to the necessity of such a hospital. Consumption in an incipient stage is curable. For the poor, unfortunate, incurable cases, and for the protection of the public generally, common humanity urgently calls for isolation and treatment as contemplated.

ARTHUR JURRS JOHNSON, M. B., M.R.C.S. Eng.:

\* \* \* It is time that some step was taken towards building such a hospital, which would prove an incalculable blessing to many a poor sufferer from the awful disease. Consumption is contagious, it being communicable through the sputa. Many cases are undoubtably curable. We have in the North-West Territories a climate that is unsurpassed in conditions which are of vital importance in the treatment of tuberculosis. Besides this it appears to me that if a hospital for consumption was begun in a suitable location in the North-West, the place would soon become a centre where other smaller and larger sanitoriums for consumption would be erected. We would then have, in our own country and amongst our own people, a health resort to which our patients might go. Expense to the patient would be lessened and money kept in this country.

JAMES THORBURN, M. D., Edin., Professor (Emeritus) of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Tor. University, Medical Director North American Ins. Co., etc.:

\* \* \* No ones doubts that consumption is of a contagious nature with a germ origin, and with our pre-

sent knowledge of the disease and its treatment, we think it is to a great extent curable, especially when not too far advanced. It is the duty of the State to aid in every way possible in the building of the proposed hospital. The money would be well invested if a proper sanatorium was erected in a suitable part of the Dominion.

Office of the Medical Health Officer, Toronto, June 16, '94.

These cases have now ordinary hospital accommodation, but not accommodation for their separate isolation and treatment. I may say these patients are best managed under what is known as the Cottage Hospital System by which they can be isolated more or less completely, according to the stage of the disease. \* \* \* \*

CHARLES SHEARD, M. D., Medical Health Officer.

EXTRACTS FROM TORONTO PAPERS.

Toronto Globe, April 2, 2895: \* \* \* One of the difficulties is to remove from the public mind the impression that consumption is incurable, the belief being almost universal that once it has seized hold of its victims all that can be done is to leave them to die. Another of the difficulties, and perhaps the main difficulty, is the question of finances. The maintenance of an hospital for this class of patients would involve more than the usual expense. The curative influences are necessarily slow, and patients will require to spend considerable time in the institution if they are to receive any permanent benefit from the treatment. Then there are great numbers of afflicted who would desire to avail themselves of the boon—a far greater number than could possibly be accommodated.

These problems will have to be

faced, but above them all remains the sorrow and suffering that such an institution would go a great way toward alleviating. There is probably scarcely a reader who does not know of homes where the existence of such an institution would establish hope where now there is nothing but despair. It is difficult to conceive of a more tragic fate than that of the bread-winner who sees the swift approach of death and yet knows that the destroyer could be vanquished had he but the means to carry him to where climatic conditions are favourable and enable him to remain there long enough to profit by the curative influences.

Such people are under sentence of death. Mr. Gage hopes that the establishment of an institution such as he contemplates would bear to many of such a most welcome reprieve. \* \* \* The project is well worthy the consideration of the philanthropic and of the public bodies who will be asked to pecuniarily assist in the maintenance of patients.

Toronto World, May 19, 1895. \* \*

\* While systematic efforts are made to stamp out tuberculosis in cattle, it is strange to find that no public effort is made to eradicate the disease among men. \* \* \* Such an institution is

more needed than even the Isolation Diphtheria Hospital.

FROM HOSPITAL SURGEONS, TORONTO.

Toronto, June 18, 1894.

There can be no doubt as to the advisability of erecting such a hospital as you mention, not only that those suffering from tuberculosis may receive special treatment, but that every means may be taken to prevent the spread of the disease by infection.

When we consider that about one seventh of the total number of deaths is caused by tuberculosis in some form, and that by far the most common mode of infection is inhalation of the dried and pulverized sputa of consumptives, the importance of properly caring for this class of patients is manifest. Moreover, the results obtained in the treatment of this disease in special institutions are such as would fully justify the erection of a hospital of this kind. \* \* \*

DR. R. J. DWYER.  
St. Michael's Hospital.

FROM MEDICAL SUPT. TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Toronto, June 15, 1894.

I think it very desirable to have a separate hospital for consumptive patients. \* \* \*

C. O'REILLY.

## THE CITY OF CALGARY

### Its Advantageous Situation as a Centre of Commerce.

Calgary, which is the first place erected into a city in the Territories of Canada, entered its second year of city life on the first day of January 1895, and completed its tenth year since first surveyed as a village site. It is the capital of the far famed fertile provisional province of Alberta, which stretches from north to south along the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains for over 400 miles, and 250 miles from east to west. The site of this young city is in a beautiful valley. Within the limits of the city is the junction of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, both of which are rapid streams of the purest water, capable of furnishing water power for great factories, and water to irrigate hundreds of thousands of acres of land. Calgary is the most important trade centre on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway for 1,400 miles, between the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the Pacific Coast. From Calgary there is a line of railway running 200 miles north through an exceedingly fertile and rapidly settling country, to the prosperous town of Edmonton, on the banks of the great Saskatchewan River, celebrated for its placer gold bars. It is safe to assert that the country along this line of railway, to and beyond Edmonton for an additional 100 miles has no superior on the continent for producing hard wheat, barley, oats, and a great variety of vegetables and grasses. Though it is a prairie country there is plenty of timber interspersed and coal without limit almost everywhere. To the north are the greatest petroleum beds in the world. From Calgary to the south a railway extends through fertile, well-watered prairie lands 100 miles to Old Fort Macleod,

which has now become a thriving town, and will eventually be pushed on through the Crow's Nest Pass to the Kootenay country, a district possessing gold and silver deposits in great richness. There is not much timber along this line, but first-class coal is found in abundance every few miles. On this prairie region there are tens of thousands of beef cattle and horses which thrive and fatten without artificial shelter or food other than the native grasses all the year round. There are also many good farms. The climate of Alberta is very healthful, Alberta air being a specific for asthma and incipient consumption. On account of the length of the summer days and the clearness of the atmosphere, there is more sunshine in Alberta than any part of the United States. In winter there is usually a short spell of clear frosty, and sometimes real cold weather, varying in duration from one to two months. There are never any cyclones or devastating storms. Only once in seven years has there been what could be called a blizzard. The loss of cattle has not averaged five per cent in 10 years, is in fact less than in any cattle state in the Union. The snow fall is light all over Alberta. At Calgary there is not often enough of the beautiful to make sleighing. Calgary has already several important industries, such as flour and saw mills, tannery, sash and door factory, cold storage, foundry, saddlery, etc., etc., and room for many more. The streets and buildings are lighted by electricity. There are numerous churches, fine schools, and the hotels are unsurpassed by any place of the same size in America. There are two live daily newspapers giving the telegraph news of the world. The city has branches of three of the great chartered banks of Canada, also private banks. It has waterworks, sewer and telephone sys-

tems, opera house, and public halls and fine business blocks, built of native free stone, which are the pride of their owners and the admiration of all visitors. It is the central seat of justice for Alberta, there being two resident judges of the Supreme Court, and here is a 100 man post of the North West Mounted Police. The principal exports of Calgary District up to the present are beef cattle, horses, sheep, wool, butter, lumber, building stone, lime, coal, sashes and doors, cowboy saddles, harness, ale, lager beer, malt, fine wool blankets, &c. The future of Calgary as a great city is well assured by the natural richness of the soil in the surrounding country and the vast beds of Anthracite, Bituminous and splendid coking coal with which the whole country is underlaid, and which crops out in seams of great thickness in the banks of the rivers and creeks. The gold and silver mines in the mountains to the west, which are the richest now known in North America, combined with other minerals of great value, with the Anthracite, coking coal and limestone, the food producing character of the country, the railway facilities existing, soon to be increased, combine to make Calgary the best point between the oceans for smelting works and concomitant industries. Some of the best authorities in Britain, the United States and Canada have declared that "Denver, Col., " is not in it with Calgary in natural advantages for reducing and refining works. Calgary with its lines of railway shooting out in four directions, together with the other four lines chartered and subsidized, will in a short time, become a great railway centre. There are good assurances that a line of railway will be built at no distant day from Calgary to Fort Churchill on the Hudsons Bay. The Alberta Southern railway from Calgary, connecting with the Canadian Pacific

and the American transcontinental railways, and with the Fort Churchill railway, will place Calgary on the shortest route from San Francisco to Liverpool by 2,000 miles. The Rocky Mountain railway and the Red Deer Valley railway, which will soon be built, will bring in millions of tons of coal to be carried by the Alberta Southern railway to the smelters and refineries of Montana cities at less than half what it now costs those cities for coke and Anthracite, in return for which Alberta will receive many millions of dollars annually. The only draw back to the prosperity of Alberta is the light rain fall in the southern portion during the last four years. But this is being overcome by the numerous small irrigation works that have been put in and the large number that the farmers are preparing to put in, besides extensive irrigation ditches have been commenced by companies, while others have been surveyed and will go on during 1895. In the summer of 1894 the Dominion Government made a complete survey of Southern Alberta and part of Western Assiniboia for irrigation. The Dominion Parliament, during the session of 1894, passed an ample Irrigation Act, and the Territorial Assembly passed an ordinance for the formation of irrigation districts on the municipal principle. The crops produced on the land already irrigated have been prodigious and of the finest quality. Free Government homesteads are to be had by thousands and railway lands at very low prices on long time payments. The market for dairy and farm produce is good, the larger the quantity produced the better the market. No person should emigrate to this country without sufficient capital and experience to enable them to carry on mixed farming, horse, cattle, or sheep ranching, or to go into manufacturing or mining on their own account. The labour market is well

supplied except for females for domestic service. With capital properly applied, Alberta is capable of furnishing all the trained horses needed for the

British Army, all the canned beef for the army and the millions of pounds of butter at present supplied by Denmark to England.



## A LETTER TO W. J. GAGE

### A Number of Advantages That Calgary Possesses.

W. J. GAGE, ESQUIRE, TORONTO,  
ONTARIO.

DEAR SIR: I desire to point out a few facts in connection with this district, in reference to its suitability for the proposed Sanatorium which have been overlooked by the writers for this pamphlet.

1. Calgary possesses 45 acres of beautiful island parks in the Bow River. There are three islands close together but separated by channels of clear water. The islands themselves are high and dry with a large number of good shade trees. It is in contemplation to bridge from the main shore and also to bridge the dividing channels.

Plans have been made for daming the Bow River below where it receives the Elbow River so that a stretch of a

mile of calm water will be obtained for boating purposes.

One important feature of Calgary and its surroundings is the absence of the mosquito plague. Though a very few mosquitos may occasionally be seen in summer they have never been here during the ten years of my residence in sufficient numbers to be any annoyance and up to this date I have not seen or heard one this year.

There is an entire absence of poisonous reptiles. Though I have heard of some common snakes having been seen about the quarries, yet during ten years residence, going everywhere about town and country, I have never seen a snake of any kind.

As an evidence of the purity of the air, I have kept rain water in barrels from June of one year to June of the next year without causing any perceptible smell to the water or generating what we used to call wiggler in the Province of Ontario.

Yours truly,  
WESLEY F. ORR,  
Calgary, July 10th, 1895.

Since this date several large buildings have been erected in the city, including two large Hospitals, Post Office, and a number of business blocks and private residences. The majority of the new structures are by

Calgary freestone.

## CALGARY IN 1892.



